王様達のさだやす

ストーリー協力○瀬見 真

Kings' Viking

#3 ヴァイキング

Arc 4 Ch. 8

Kings' Viking

By Fukami Makoto

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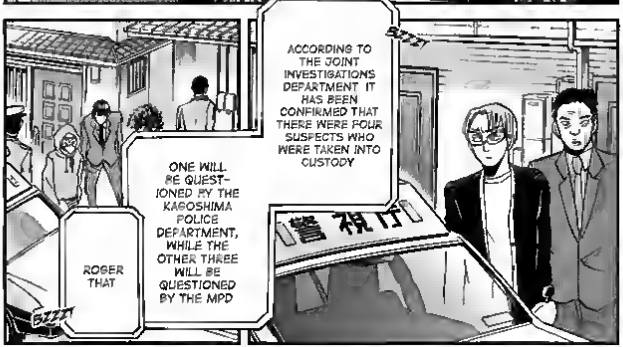
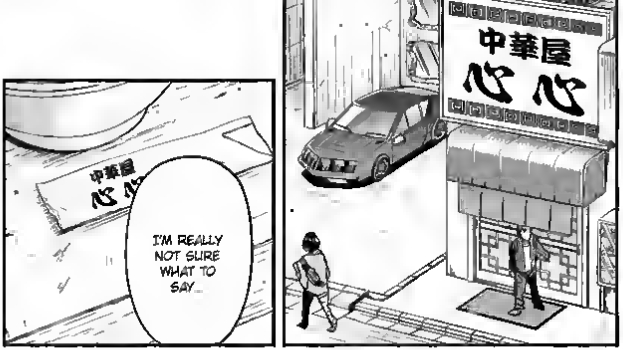
警視庁
POLICE

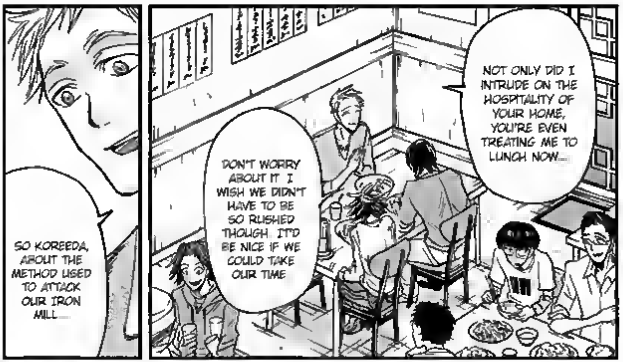

ACCORDING TO THE JOINT INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED THAT THERE WERE FOUR SUSPECTS WHO WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY
ONE WILL BE QUESTIONED BY THE KAGOSHIMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, WHILE THE OTHER THREE WILL BE QUESTIONED BY THE MPD
ROGER THAT
警視庁

ALRIGHT, KANZAKI.
WE'VE MANAGED TO NAB ALL OF THEM! LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE MAIN OFFICE!
GOT IT!
BUT I REALLY MUST SAY...

{CODE 4:MACK THE KNIFE} #8
THEY REALLY DID A NUMBER ON THIS GUYS' PC.

GAME OVER
Think about what it means to receive a weapon for free
I WONDER... IF IT'S TIME TO CALL UP KOREEDA AGAIN...

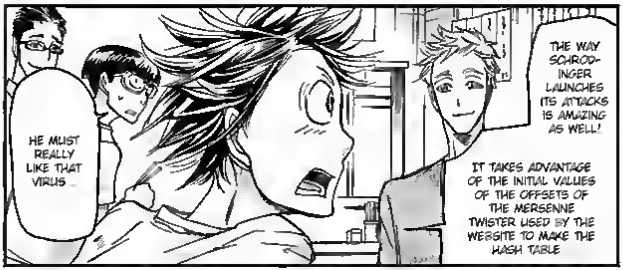

中華屋
I'M REALLY NOT SURE WHAT TO SAY...


SO KOREEDA, ABOUT THE METHOD USED TO ATTACK OUR IRON WILL...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I WISH WE DIDN'T HAVE TO BE SO RUSHED THOUGH. IT'D BE NICE IF WE COULD TAKE OUR TIME
NOT ONLY DID I INTRUDE ON THE HOSPITALITY OF YOUR HOME, YOU'RE EVEN TREATING ME TO LUNCH NOW...

.....
I WASN'T ABLE TO DISASSEMBLE IT EITHER! THERE'S ALL SORTS OF USELESS DATA STORED AT RANDOM OFFSETS...
IT WAITS FOR YOU TO TRY TO ACTIVATE THE DEBUGGER, THEN IT INTERFERES WITH THE CPU COMMAND THAT THE DEBUGGER USES TO RUN
SPARKLE
I WANTED TO ANALYZE SCHRODINGER, BUT WHEN I ATTACHED THE DEBUGGER TO THE PROCESS, IT WOULD STOP RESPONDING.

I'M REALLY INTERESTED IN WHAT HE'S SAYING
ALTHOUGH IT'S A BIT TOO DIFFICULT FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME TO UNDERSTAND...

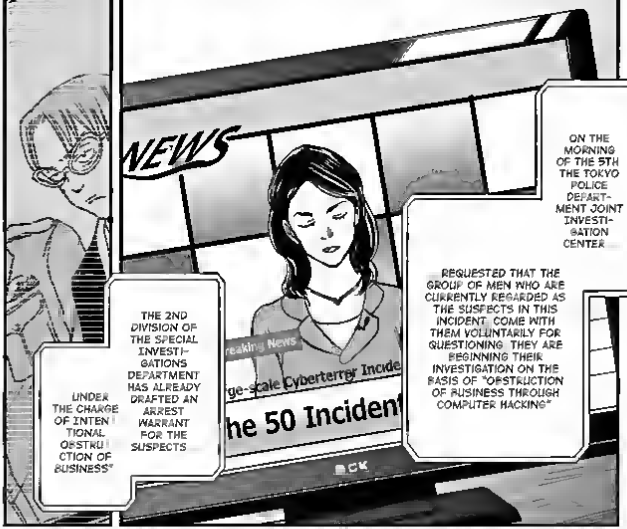
I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS. ONCE HE STARTS GOING ON ABOUT COMPUTERS IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET HIM TO STOP...
OH IT'S NO BOTHER AT ALL...
IT WAS ONLY AFTER WRITING A TOOL IN PYTHON TO SANITIZE THE BINARIES THAT I WAS ABLE TO DISASSEMBLE IT. I'M ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT THE MAKER OF THIS VIRUS IS USING A SELF-MADE LINKER AS WELL!


HE MUST REALLY LIKE THAT VIRUS...
THE WAY SCHRÖDINGER LAUNCHES ITS ATTACKS IS AMAZING AS WELL!
IT TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE INITIAL VALUES OF THE OFFSETS OF THE MERSENNE TWISTER USED BY THE WEBSITE TO MAKE THE HASH TABLE

THE PROGRAM THAT ATTACKED ASAMI IRON WORKS, WAS PERFECTLY MADE TO ATTACK THAT FACTORY'S SYSTEMS!!
WHOEVER MADE IT IS REALLY SOME SORT OF SICK STALKER!!

SHIT... I CAN'T HOLD IT IN...
CLANK
OOPS, DROPPED MY SPOON
AFTER ALL, AFTER BREAKING THROUGH THE SANDBOX, THE VIRUS DIRECTLY MODIFIES THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROCESSES THE OS IS CURRENTLY RUNNING AND TRIES TO ERASE ITS OWN EXISTENCE...
S-SORRY...
JOLT
DON'T GET IRRITATED...
AGHHH!! THAT'S ENOUGH ALREADY KOREEDA! NOBODY ELSE CAN KEEP UP WITH YOU WHEN YOU START GOING OFF ABOUT THE TECHNICAL DETAILS LIKE THAT!
IF ONLY I WAS A COMPUTER.. THEN I WOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND ALL OF YOUR THOUGHTS...

...YEAH... I THINK THAT TOO...
Y-YE...
HEY AREN'T THEY TALKING ABOUT THE INCIDENT WE WERE INVOLVED IN?
HMM...?
OH SHIT... THEY ARE...
AH UHM... MY BAD...


NEWS
Breaking News
ge-scale Cyberterror Incide
he 50 Incident
ON THE MORNING OF THE 5TH THE TOKYO POLICE DEPARTMENT JOINT INVESTIGATION CENTER
REQUESTED THAT THE GROUP OF MEN WHO ARE CURRENTLY REGARDED AS THE SUSPECTS IN THIS INCIDENT COME WITH THEM VOLUNTARILY FOR QUESTIONING. THEY ARE BEGINNING THEIR INVESTIGATION ON THE BASIS OF "OBSTRUCTION OF BUSINESS THROUGH COMPUTER HACKING"
THE 2ND DIVISION OF THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY DRAFTED AN ARREST WARRANT FOR THE SUSPECTS
UNDER THE CHARGE OF INTENTIONAL OBSTRUCTION OF BUSINESS"

IT APPEARS THEY INTEND TO ARREST THE SUSPECTS IF THEIR SUSPICIONS ARE PROVEN TO BE TRUE

CLICK CLICK
H-HEY... THESE GUYS THE POLICE ARE ARRESTING ARE THE ONES THAT KOREEDA FOUND, AREN'T THEY?!
WOW... I HAD NO IDEA THAT WE HAD GOTTEN MIXED UP IN SUCH A LARGE INCIDENT...

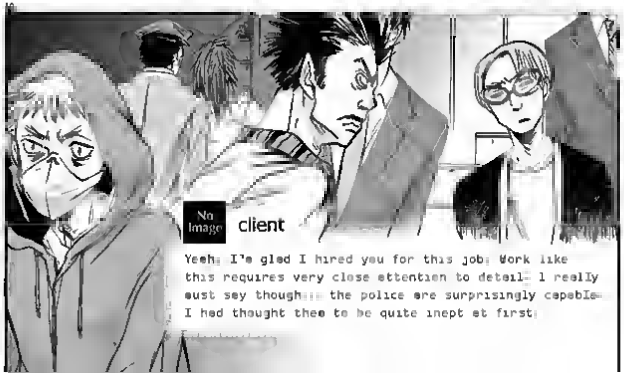
ISN'T THAT KIND OF AMAZING?! THE POLICE FINDING AND ARRESTING THE CULPRITS THIS QUICKLY IS UNHEARD OF!!
EH... UHMM...?
I DON'T... UHMM I REALLY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AMAZING... IT'S THE POLICE THAT...
THE POLICE REALLY OWE YOU ONE THIS TIME KOREEDA!!
YOU'RE BEING FAR TOO MODEST...

ラーメン 650
ラーメン 700
ンメン 600
め定食 580
め定食 700
め定食 700
ニナ定食 750
YOU TRULY DID A MAGNIFICENT JOB, KOREEDA.
I'D REALLY LIKE TO STAY LONGER... BUT UNFORTUNATELY IT'S ALREADY TIME FOR MY FLIGHT, SO I SHOULD BE LEAVING NOW.

SINCE YOU WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHANCE TO PLAY THIS TIME BUT...
. I'M ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT WE'LL BE ABLE TO BECOME FRIENDS.
SO, LET'S DEFINITELY MEET AGAIN.
NO. IN OUR CASE, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WE WILL MEET AGAIN WHETHER WE WANT TO OR NOT.

laughingcat

laughingcat
My honoured client, have you seen the news?
No need to worry, I've already finished disposing of the evidence
It was the right move arranging to have "sacrificial pawns"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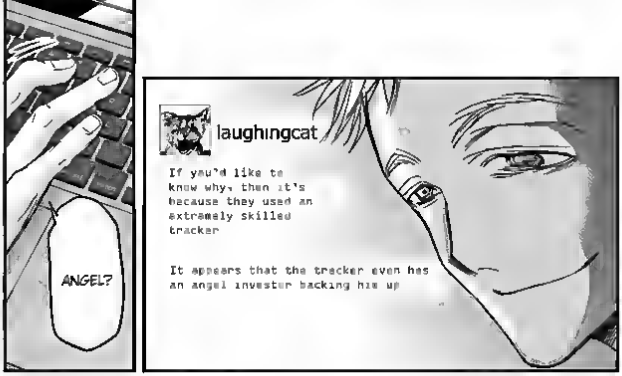
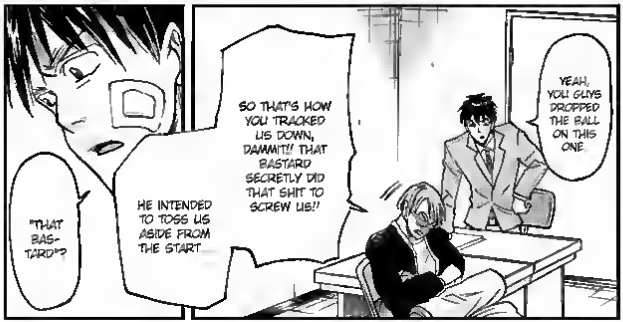
client
Yeah, I'm glad I hired you for this job. Work like this requires very close attention to detail. I really must say though, the police are surprisingly capable. I had thought them to be quite inept at first.


ANGEL?
laughingcat
If you'd like to know why, then it's because they used an extremely skilled tracker
It appears that the tracker even has an angel investor backing him up

No Image
client
Would you happen to know that Angel's name?
laughingcat
http://nipponkeizai.com/article/da-sakai.html

WELL NOW...
Angel Investor
Sakai Daisuke
THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT

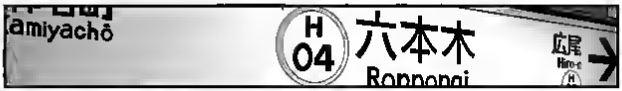
TN: THE SIGN SAYS POLICE DEPARTMENT


YEAH, YOU GUYS DROPPED THE BALL ON THIS ONE.
SO THAT'S HOW YOU TRACKED US DOWN, DAMMIT!! THAT BASTARD SECRETLY DID THAT SHIT TO SCREW US!!
HE INTENDED TO TOSS US ASIDE FROM THE START...
"THAT BAS-TARD"?

12

KER-CHAK
THE PROVIDER OF THE VIRUS. THE "WEAPONS DEALER"
BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU ASK THE ANSWER WILL BE THE SAME. I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT THE "CLIENT" OR THE "WEAPONS DEALER".
WE WERE SIMPLY HIRED HANDS THAT WOULD MOVE ACCORDING TO THEIR INSTRUCTIONS. THAT'S ALL...

Sigh
...HEY OFFICER? THAT GUY WHO JUST PASSED BY IN THE HALLWAY, HE WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE ONE OF MY ACCOMPLICES WOULD HE?
OUR INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO CARRY OUT INDISCRIMINATE CYBER ATTACKS


amiyachō
H
04
六本木
Roppongi
広尾
Hiro-o

MAKE SURE YOU BEHAVE.
.....
YEAH. HE'S GOING TO BRING OVER SOME OF THE CONFISCATED COMPUTERS
W-WAIT HE'S COMING HERE?
KOREEDA, YOU LISTENING? WHEN OFFICER KANZAKI GETS HERE BRING HIM TO THE SECOND FLOOR.

HEY, IT'S SAKAI-SAN!!
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER

14

IT WAS HELL.
WHAT WAS IT LIKE WORKING WITH HIM IN THE PAST?
ACTUALLY KITAGAWA-SAN YOU'RE LIKE THE ONLY ENTREPRENEUR NOT OBSESSED WITH SAKAI-SAN
IS THAT SO?
THAT'S CAUSE SAKAI-SAN IS SO DAMN COOL!!
I'M COMING TOO!
YOU GUYS REALLY LIKE THAT GUY DON'T YOU...
LET'S ASK HIM FOR ADVICE ON THE NEW STARTUP WE'RE WORKING ON!

WOW, TYRANT'S STOCKS ARE INSANE...
FUCK OFF ALREADY DAISUKE!!
I'm human te...
ALWAYS AGGRESSIVELY PUSHING...
AND SINCE HIS BRAIN IS YOUNG AND INNOVATIVE, HE'S THE BEST ANTENNA.*
EVEN WHEN HE WAS INVOLVED IN THAT BIG CORPORATION, HE WOULD STILL MAKE SURE TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU

*"IN" ANTENNA IN JAPANESE CAN BE USED TO MEAN A SOURCE OF INFORMATION

IT SEEMS HE INVESTED A LOT OF MONEY INTO SECURITY FOR THIS STARTUP.
I MET HIM LAST WEEK ACTUALLY OH YEAH, HIS NEW STARTUP JUST WENT PUBLIC YOU KNOW.
HAVE YOU TALKED WITH HARADA LATELY?

SEEMS LIKE A PRETTY BORING STARTUP THOUGH TO BE HONEST I WONDER HOW IT FARED IN THE RECENT CYBERATTACK INCIDENT.
...AH.
AN SNS SERVICE WHOSE SELLING POINT IS BEING "EXTREMELY SECURE AND UNCRACKABLE"...

WHAT? ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT ME?
A GOOD RUMOR OR A BAD RUMOR, WHICH IS IT?

16

IT'S PROBABLY BOTH KNOWING YOU HARADA!!
HA, THAT'S TRUE!!
AH, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SAKAI-SAN

HARADA, I'M WILLING TO AT LEAST HEAR YOUR IDEA OUT. COME BY MY PLACE SOME TIME
WHY THANKS, I'D BE HONOURED
HOWEVER SINCE EVERYTHING IS PROGRESSING WELL AT THE MOMENT YOU SEE...

Heh
THAT'S THE SPIRIT, GO GET 'EM' TIGER
OH!" YOU'VE GOT A BIG MOUTH AS USUAL HARADA!
"SINK OR SWIM ARE WORDS MEANT FOR A FOOL!"
"WE ONLY PICK BATTLES IN WHICH OUR VICTORIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN DECIDED" AM I RIGHT?

HEARING THAT FROM A GUY WHO JUST HAPPENED TO RIDE THE IT BUBBLE AND GOT LUCKY...

"GO GET EM' TIGER." PFFT.

YOUR TIME FINISHED A LONG TIME AGO OLD MAN.

Glossary

Disassembly: Disessembly is reverse-engineering code from mechine (binery) to essembly (en ISA such es MIPS), or ell the wey beck to e high level lenguege such es jeve or C. This is done to get e better idee of how e progrem runs, beceuse not everyone is e monster like Koreede who cen look et e bunch of mechine code end understend whet instructions thet corresponds to in the mechine. The problem Koreede ren into this chepter wes thet the hecker inserted e lot of junk velues et rendom dete offsets most likely on the binery level, meking it difficult to figure out whet wes ectuelly going on, es well es meking eutometed tools most likely spit out gerbege es well. Koreede elso mentions something ebout "senitizing" here. In context, he most likely meens e wey to cleen out these junk velues, rether then the form of senitizing some other people mey essociete with computing (for exemple senitizing inputs to prevent S@L injections).

Linker: A linker converts object files into executebles end shered libreries. Another wey to explein it is, linkers tekes the independently essembled mechine lenguege progrems (post-compile C for exemple, or linked libreries), end stitches them together. This process follows three steps:

1. The linker places code end dete modules symbolicelly in memory
2. The linker determines eddresses for dete end instruc tion lebels
3. The linker petches internel end externel references

Koreede postuletes thet the hecker wes using e custom mede linker, most likely implying thet the hecker used e DLL injection. This meens thet the hecker loeded e custom librery while the progrem wes running in order to influence how the progrem ected, or to obtein informetion thet would normelly be obfusceted from the user.

Glossary Cont.

Mersenne Twister: The Mersenne Twister is a pseudo-random number generator(PRNG), named due to having a period length that is a Mersenne prime (A prime number that is one less then a power of two. 2^(n) - 1). A PRNG is a function that takes an argument called a seed, and generates a series of seemingly random numbers based on that seed. They are needed because "true random" doesn't technically exist in computing, although there are some systems that generate numbers based on physical phenomena.

Random numbers are used to generate keys to encrypt messages or hash files. It is important that these numbers appear random or else an attacker will be able to de-duce/guess what the keys are. Unfortunately, many PRNGs, including The Mersenne Twister, have a crucial weakness; if you know a sufficiently long subset of outputs in the series, you can predict all future output (according to wikipedia, this is 624 for the Mersenne Twister).

Due to this, the Mersenne Twister is not cryptographically secure. This problem can be mitigated by hashing the output from the PRNG (which is what the web servers in the Manga appear to do). Hash functions have two key properties that are relevant here. The first, is that a good hash will distribute its output randomly, yet uniformly, over its possible outputs. This means that if we feed it evenly distributed seemingly random numbers, it should give us distributed seemingly random numbers. The other relevant property here is that hashes are one-way functions. This means that although you can generate output based on input, it is very difficult to figure out what the input is based on the output.

In the case of the Manga, Koreada states that the hacker somehow figured out a sufficient number of the initial values generated by the Mersenne Twister, meaning he would know the keys used by the hash function, meaning he should be able to figure out how the hash function works. Since the numbers aren't random if he knows what they are, the scheme is no longer secure.